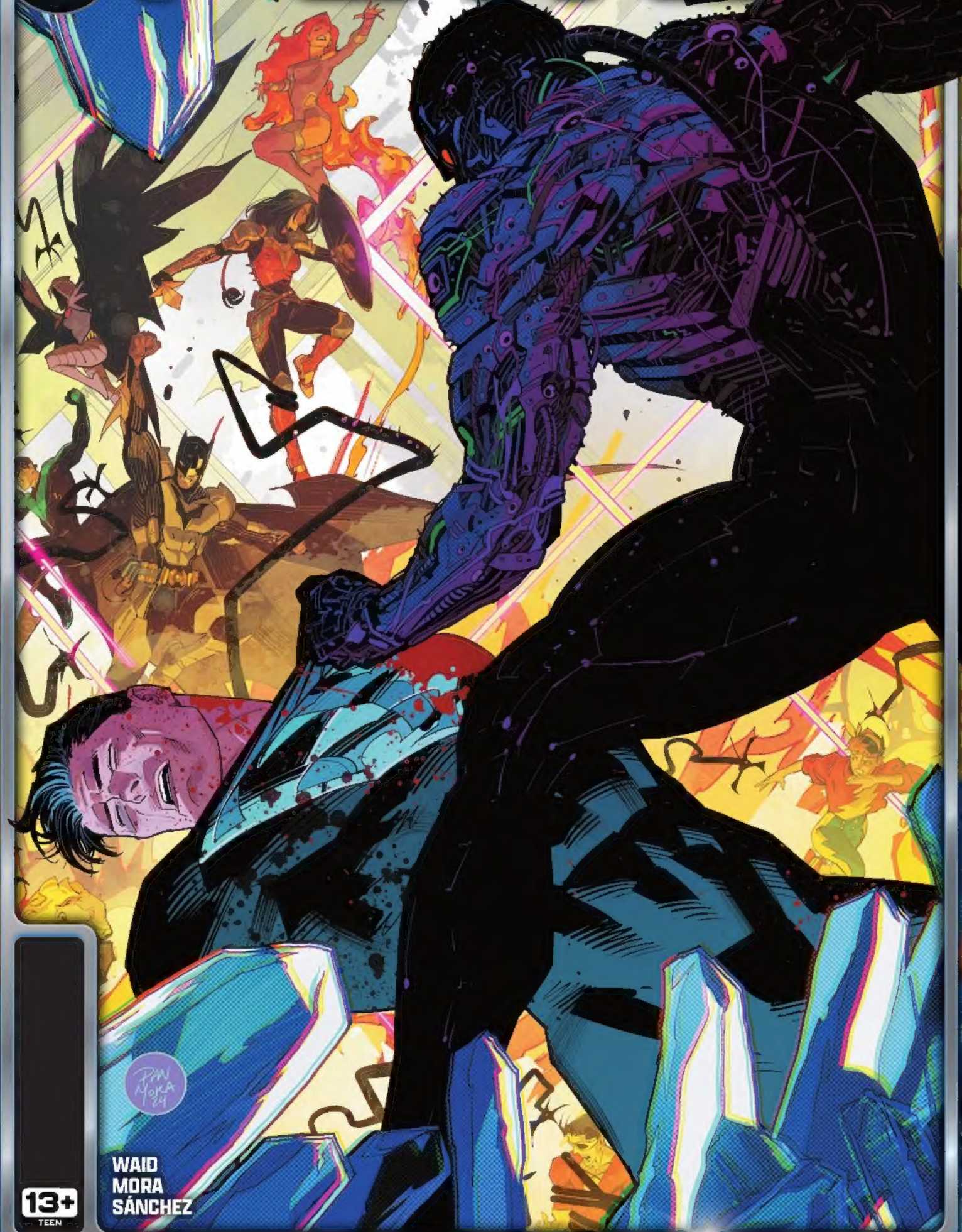




ABSOLUTE POWER



DM
MORA
24

WAID
MORA
SÁNCHEZ

13+
TEEN

THE BESTSELLING HORROR SERIES RETURNS
FOR A **BLOOD-SOAKED** NEW CHAPTER!



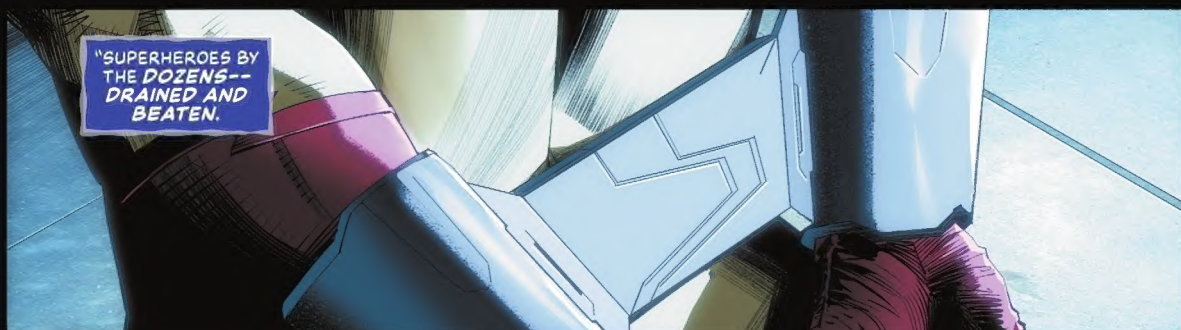
Written by
**MATTHEW
ROSENBERG**

Art by
**OTTO
SCHMIDT**

12 ISSUES | AUGUST

HEROES YOU KNOW
WORLDS YOU DON'T





"SUPERHEROES BY
THE DOZENS--
DRAINED AND
BEATEN."



"TREATED LIKE
THE CRIMINALS
THEY ARE."



"HELD PERMANENTLY
UNDER LOCK AND KEY."

**GAMORRA ISLAND.
METAHUMAN DETENTION
CENTER.**



"I FEEL SAFER
ALREADY."

ABSOLUTE POWER

CHAPTER TWO

RESISTANCE

Amanda Waller has won.

Together with Failsafe and the Brainiac Queen, "the Wall" and her Trinity of Evil march across the planet, robbing metahumans of their abilities and leaving both heroes and villains alike broken, powerless, and imprisoned. Those few who have managed to evade capture huddle in the shadows...but all is not yet lost. Though Superman lies gravely injured, the remaining heroes have been summoned to the Fortress of Solitude to plan a counterattack to the Trinity's overwhelming blitzkrieg, unaware that they are not as safe there as they believe themselves to be...

WRITER
MARK WAID

COLORS
ALEJANDRO SÁNCHEZ

COVER
DAN MORA

VARIANT COVERS
**STEPHEN BLISS
LUCIO PARRILLO
TYLER KIRKHAM &
ARIF PRIANTO
NATHAN SZERDY
SIMONE DI MED
BEN OLIVER**

ARTIST
DAN MORA

LETTERS
ARIANA MAHER

CONNECTING VARIANT COVER (2 OF 12)
JOHN TIMMS

POWER PARTICIPATION VARIANT COVER
**SALVADOR LARROCA
& LAURA MARTIN**

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
MATTHEW LEVINE

EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI

Superman created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. Superboy created by Jerry Siegel. Supergirl based on the characters created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. By special arrangement with the Jerry Siegel family.

AMANDA WALLER'S
HALL OF ORDER.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

WHAT'S THE
CURRENT SUCCESS
RATE OF TASK
FORCE VII?

SOLID.

OVER 80
PERCENT OF EARTH'S
SUPERHEROES HAVE
BEEN DEPOWERED AND
INCARCERATED.

PROBLEM IS, THE
20 PERCENT INCLUDE
THE **BIGGEST** FISH
YET TO BE CAUGHT,
AND THEY'VE GONE
UNDERGROUND.



WOULD NOT THE NEXT
LOGICAL STEP BE TO
LURE THEM INTO THE OPEN?
PERHAPS BY TARGETING THE
HUMANS THEY CARE
FOR?

COMPANIONS?
LOVED ONES?

THE WAR
COUNCIL.





THOSE "HUMANS" ARE **CIVILIANS**. OUR GOAL HERE IS TO **PROTECT** ORDINARY PEOPLE AND KEEP THEM **SAFE**.



I'M NOT A **SOCIOPATH**.



OUR **ONLY** TARGETS ARE THOSE WHOSE "GOOD DEEDS" ARE **FAR** OUTWEIGHED BY THEIR ABILITY TO ENDANGER **JOE LUNCHPAIL** BY ATTRACTING THREATS DOMESTIC, ALIEN, INTERDIMENSIONAL, MAGICAL, ETC.

WE'RE SAVING THE **EARTH** HERE.

FAILSAFE AND **ARROW**, I WANT YOU TO CONTINUE MONITORING THE **TASK FORCE**. MAKE SURE THEY'RE **CONTAINING** ALL THE POWER THEY'RE **ABSORBING**.



DREAMER, I NEED YOU **MISSION-READY**. YOU'LL BE CONVEYING AN **ASSET**.

YOUR WATCHWORD IS "**STEALTH**."



BRAINIAC QUEEN, YOU'LL DISTRACT WITH A **FRONTAL ASSAULT**, BUT YOU'LL NEED A **GUIDE**.



FORTUNATELY, WE HAVE JUST THE **MAN** FOR THE **JOB**.

THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE.

SHE HAS MY SON.

LIE DOWN AND REST. THE ONLY THING HOLDING YOU TOGETHER RIGHT NOW IS THAT CONTAINMENT SUIT.

WALLER HAS JON.

WE DON'T KNOW THAT, SUPERMAN.

FOR THE MOST PART, WE'RE NOT CERTAIN EXACTLY WHO'S WHERE.

"ORACLE IS DOING WHAT SHE CAN TO FACILITATE COMMUNICATION, BUT WITH CYBORG DOWN, THAT'S A LOSING BATTLE."

"ALMOST EVERYONE IS POWERLESS, SO SAFETY IN NUMBERS IS MORE PARAMOUNT THAN EVER."

"BETWEEN RED TORNADO, THE DOOM PATROL'S VEHICLE, MERCY'S SUPERCORP JET, AND BLUE BEETLE'S BUG, WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO ASSEMBLE WHOMEVER WE CAN FIND."



FOR THOSE
OF YOU WHO MAY
NOT *KNOW*, MY NAME
IS *NIGHTWING*, AND
THESE ARE THE
TITANS.

WE'RE GOING
TO GET *THROUGH*
THIS, BECAUSE WE KNOW
SOMETHING AMANDA
WALLER *DOESN'T*.

WHAT WE'RE
CAPABLE OF.

SHE THINKS
WE'LL *FOLD* WITHOUT
SUPER-STRENGTH
OR *HEAT VISION* OR
POWER RINGS.

PLEASE.

WE
COULDN'T IF
WE *WANTED*
TO.

VILLAINS ALWAYS
BELIEVE THEIR MOTIVES
ARE *UNIVERSAL*. THE *ONLY*
ONE *WALLER* UNDERSTANDS IS
HER LUST FOR *AUTHORITY*
AND *DOMINATION*.

SHE WILL *NEVER*
HEAR THE CALL OF
SELFLESSNESS.

SHE WILL *NEVER*
RECOGNIZE THE *WILL*
AND THE *COMMITMENT*
OF *EACH AND EVERY ONE*
OF US TO *PROTECT THE HELP-*
LESS. TO *FIGHT* AGAINST
INJUSTICE AND TYRANNY
REGARDLESS OF
THE ODDS.

AND THAT
WILL BE HER
DOWNFALL.



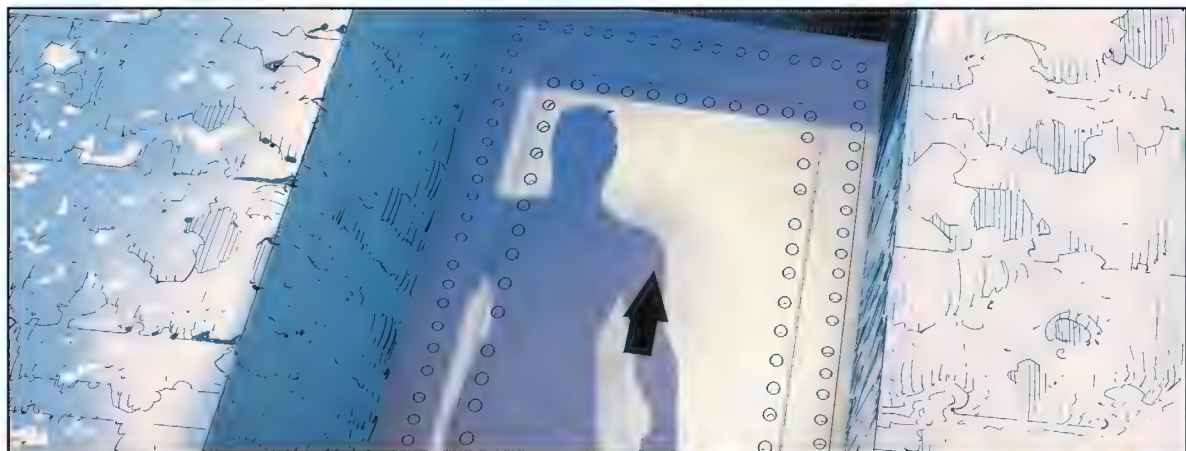
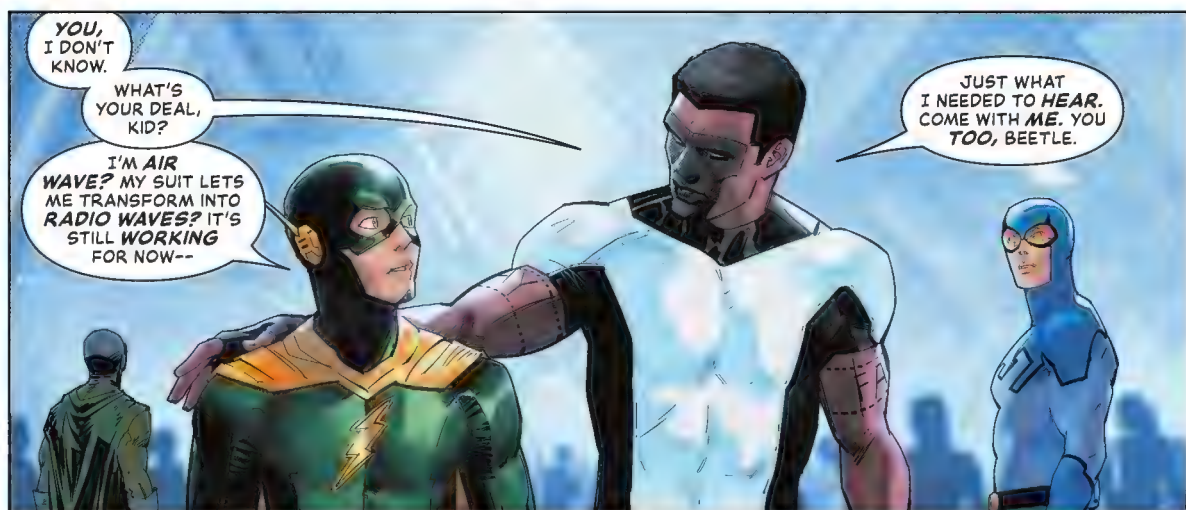




"FINALLY, A WHILE BACK, BATMAN
AND I MADE TACTICAL SUITS FOR
THE JUSTICE LEAGUE WITH SOME
SURPRISE UPGRADES.

"IF THE REST OF YOU CAN
BE PATIENT, A REPLICATOR
IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON
ADDITIONAL GEAR."



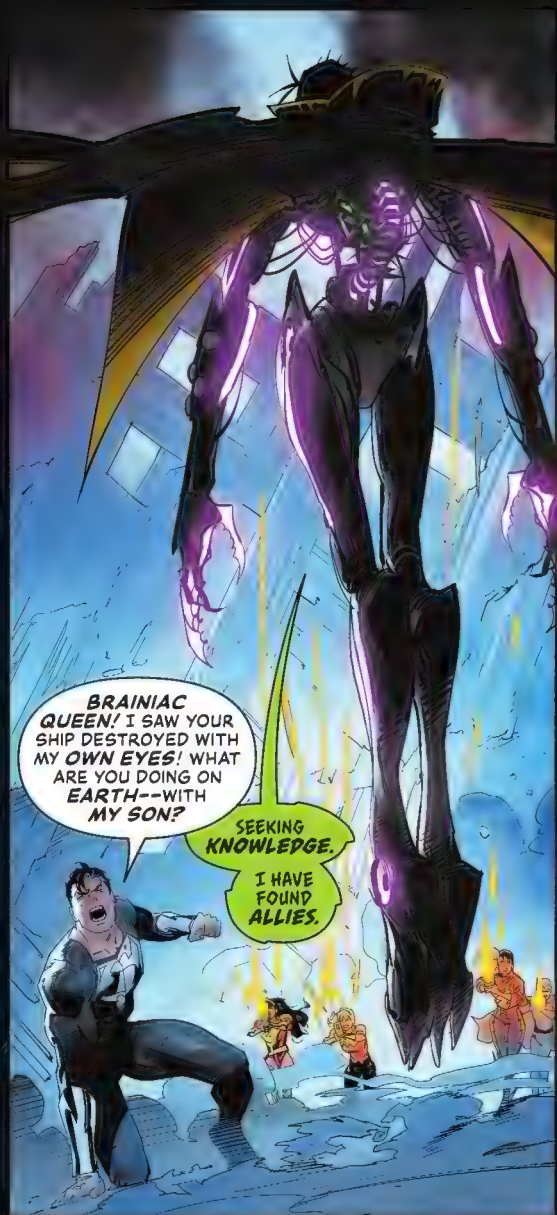




SURRENDER.

...SON?







THERE WILL
BE NO FURTHER
QUESTIONS.



YOU
BELONG TO
MOTHER.

FWOON

FWOON

FWOON

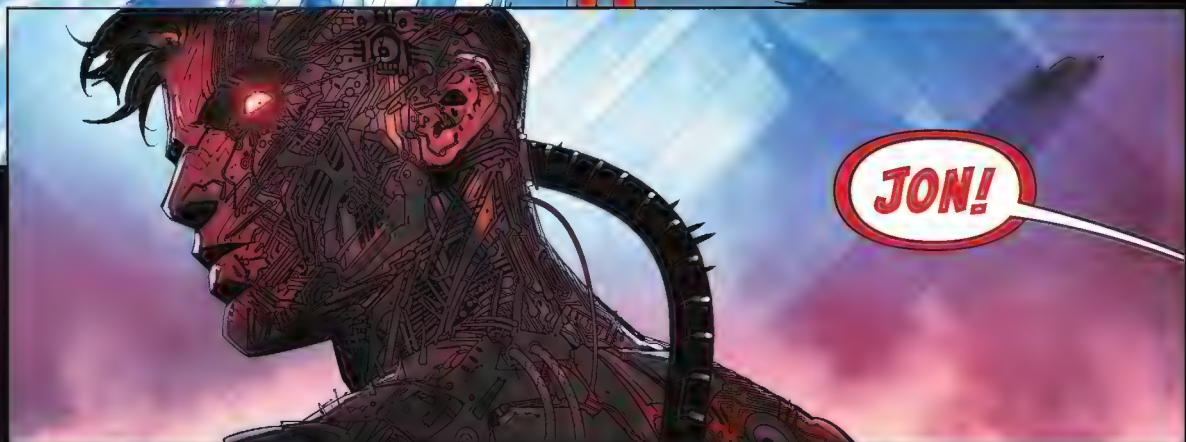


THAT
IS ALL.

THAK



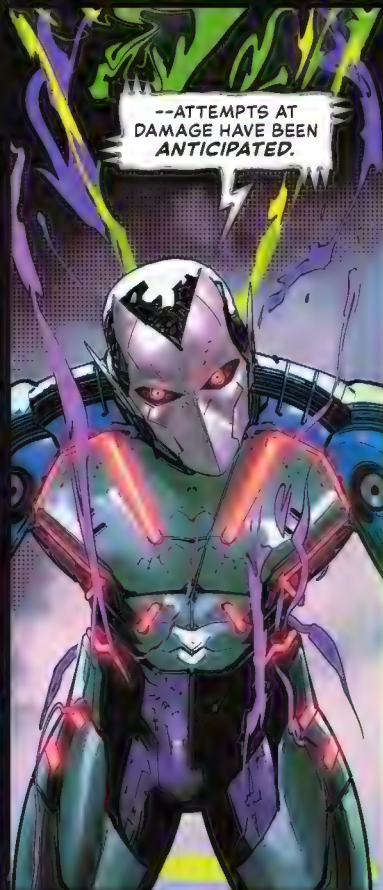
DAMN
IT! EVERY HERO
SHE ADDS TO WALLER'S
COLLECTION THROUGH
THOSE *PORTALS* IS ONE
LESS SOLDIER ON
OUR SIDE!







ATT--KZZT--
ATTEMPTS--



--ATTEMPTS AT
DAMAGE HAVE BEEN
ANTICIPATED.



WE ARE
INDESTRUCTIBLE.



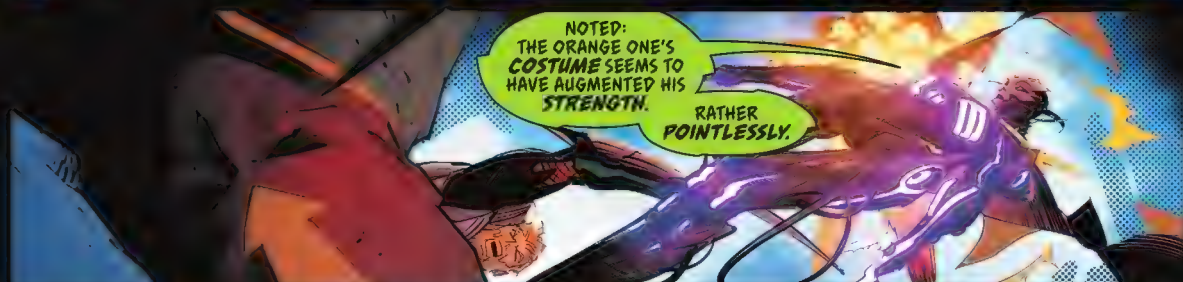
THAT
ENERGY...I KNOW
THAT SIGNATURE.
WHERE HAVE
I...?

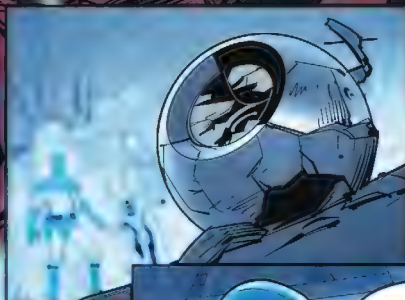


DAMN IT!
HE'S SELF-
HEALING!

LOOK
OUT!









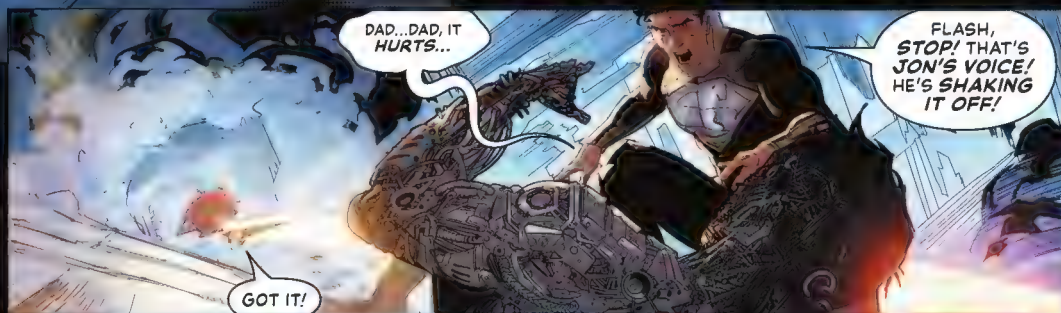
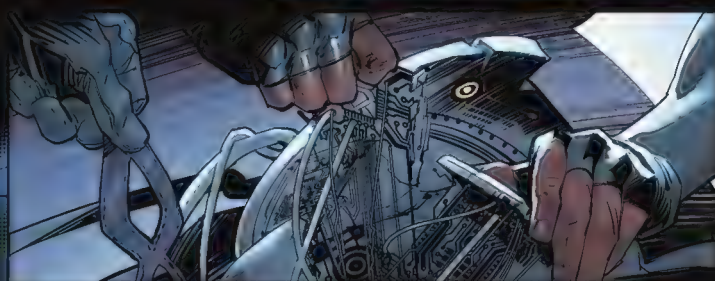
WALLER, THIS IS
OUT OF CONTROL!
I'M COMING **BACK**
TO BASE!

ABSOLUTELY
NOT. MAKE YOURSELF
USEFUL OR YOUR
FAMILY FACES THE
CONSEQUENCES,
DREAMER.



THESE
PEOPLE **AREN'T**
OUR ENEMIES!
THIS IS BRUTAL
EVEN FOR
YOU!

WALLER,
COME IN!
WALLER!



DAD...DAD, IT
HURTS...

FLASH,
STOP! THAT'S
JON'S VOICE!
HE'S SHAKING
IT OFF!

GOT IT!



DAD...
THERE'S...

...THERE'S
A WAY TO END
THIS...

...YOU
HAVE TO...

WHAT, JON?
TELL ME WHAT
YOU NEED ME
TO DO!

JOIN US.

NO!



THIS...SEEMS
FAMILIAR,
SOMEHOW.

A BOTTLE FULL
OF MINIATURIZED
BEINGS IN
STASIS.

I THINK
I SHALL KEEP
YOU.

GREAT
HERA! IS
THAT--

WHAT IS IT YOU
LANDWALKERS LIKE
TO SAY? IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY--

--BREAK
GLASS!





THAT WAS THE
BOTTLE CITY OF
KANDOR.

IT CONTAINED
THOUSANDS OF
KRYPTONIANS
SHRUNKEN BY
BRAINIAC--

--EVERY ONE OF THEM, ONCE
RELEASED AND AWAKENED,
WITH SUPERMAN'S POWERS.

JON,
DON'T...!

THERE'S
NO COMING BACK
FROM THIS! YOU'LL
NEVER FORGIVE
YOURSELF!

OH
NO, YOU
DON'T.

WALLY!





IT SEEMS
YOU WILL BE
MINE AFTER
ALL.

DAMN
IT! KANDOR
WAS OUR HAIL
MARY!



NOT
ANYMORE.

THIS
IS.

IDENTIFIER:
KAL-EL! ENACT
PROTOCOL BLACK
ZERO!

INITIATE SELF-
DESTRUCT!



COME
ON, PEOPLE!
HUSTLE! LET'S
GO!

00:10



00:09



00:08



00:07



00:06





SEEING
JON LIKE THAT
WAS THE LAST
STRAW!

I'M DONE BEING
WALLER'S PUPPET! HER
PLAYTHING! DO YOU
HEAR ME?

I WON'T
BE A PART
OF IT ANY-
MORE!

00:05



SHE'S OUT TO
REMAKE THE WORLD
IN HER SICK, TWISTED
WAY THAT BRINGS
NOTHING BUT
PAIN!

00:04



"EVERYTHING I'VE
DONE, I'VE DONE
TO PROTECT MY
FAMILY--"

00:03



--BUT MY
FAMILY WOULD
NEVER WANT
THAT.

NEVER.

AMANDA, IF
YOU'RE LISTENING...
YOU CAN GO F--

00:02



GAMORRA ISLAND.

WHAT
DO YOU *MEAN*
"OFF THE GRID,"
STEEL?

THIS IS THE LAST
TRANSMISSION WE
RECEIVED.

I'M DONE BEING
WALLER'S PUPPET! HER
PLAYTHING! DO YOU
HEAR ME?

I WON'T
BE A PART
OF IT ANY-
MORE!

I'M MORE
CONCERNED THAT
WE DON'T CURRENTLY
HAVE EYES ON
SUPERMAN'S
KID--

...AT WHICH
POINT SUPERMAN'S
FROSTY CLUBHOUSE
EXPLODED, BUT NOT
UNTIL THE SUPERS JUMPED
INTO SOME SORT OF
TELEPORTATION
GIZMO.

MINUS DREAMER,
OF COURSE, REST IN
SUPERHERO PEACE
OR WHATEVER.

WH...
WHAT...

...WHAT
HAVE I...

--AND
THAT YOUR
CREEPY LITTLE
ROBOT DOLLY
JUST BIT IT.

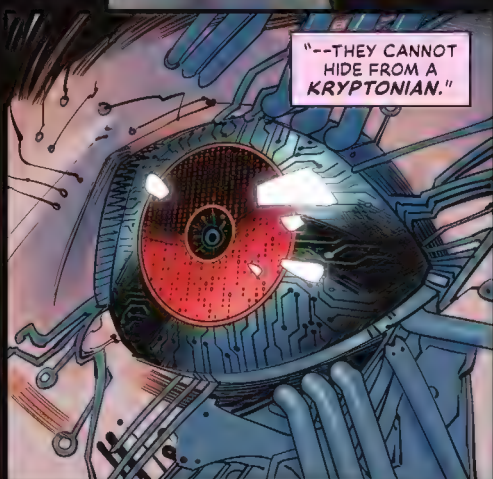
DON'T WORRY
ABOUT **BRAINIAC**
QUEEN.

"SHE'S MORE
RESILIENT THAN YOU
SEEM TO *THINK*."



"...REMAINS
UNDER HER *FULL*
CONTROL."

"THE FUGITIVES *WILL BE FOUND*.
REMEMBER, THE BOY HAS
SUPER-SENSES. TRUST ME,
WHEREVER THEY'VE FLED--

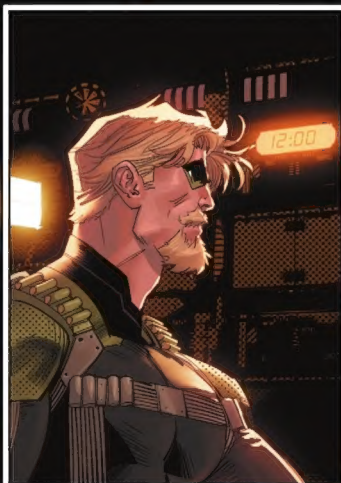




DOES *QUEEN* KNOW ABOUT DREAMER? I DON'T NEED HIS HAIR ON FIRE OVER ANOTHER *CASUALTY*.

THIS ONE'S *NEED-TO-KNOW*, AND HE *DOESN'T*.

"I'VE GOT HIM BUSY CATALOGUING THE WEAPONS WE TOOK FROM THE *JUSTICE LEAGUE ARCHIVES*..."



"...SINCE HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT HALF OF THEM CAN *DO*."

TIME'S UP.

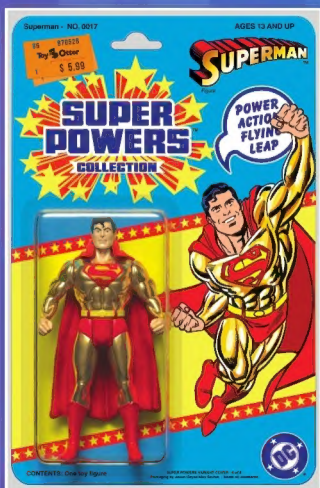
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DC vs. VAMPIRES: WORLD WAR V

INTERVIEW WITH MATTHEW ROSENBERG

The smash-hit series returns as a fragile truce between the human resistance and the vampire queen has been established. But one variable remains! Damian Wayne and his guerrilla fighters are still battling for a better world against the bloodthirsty hordes. Can peace exist or is a world war on the horizon? DC Nation sat down with series writer Matthew Rosenberg to sink our teeth into this new installment.

How does *DC vs. Vampires: World War V* pick up after the events of the first *DC vs. Vampires* series?

Humanity suffered some horrific losses in the previous series, but there were some sparks of hope in the end. Humans and vampires have a fragile peace agreement, with parties from both sides threatening to shatter it before anyone can truly rebuild. When the *World War V* story begins we're about six months into this new status quo. It's cold, dark, and the whole world could be plunged into a war again at any moment. It's fun!

What has it been like to now have the *DC vs. Vampires* universe officially be a part of the Elseworlds relaunch?

Being part of the Elseworlds line is honestly such an honor. I grew up on books like *Batman: Gotham by Gaslight*, *Superman: Red Son*, *Kingdom Come*, *JLA: The Nail*, and so many more. One thing I've always loved about DC and the fandom is their willingness to embrace the wildest idea. It's the kind of adventurous storytelling that got me into comics. I hope we are living up to the legacy with *DC vs. Vampires*.

Are any new DC heroes or villains making their *DC vs. Vampires* universe debut in this series?

We've been keeping it a secret, but we might as well reveal it now. The most requested character was, no surprise, Killer Moth! And I'm happy to say Killer Moth will be in the series in a big way! So all you moth-heads get your preorders in at your local comics shop now. We're also adding new heroes and villains. Some big guns from the Justice League will be showing up. Plus, fan favorites like the Atom, Hush, Beast Boy, Bat-Mite, and more. Then there are rumors of Green Lantern and Batman coming back, but that would be crazy. However, there may be a few big surprises for those who are patient.

It's exciting for fans to see Otto Schmidt returning on art! What is he bringing to this new series?

Otto is the heart and soul of the series. He breathes life into these characters (even the undead ones) in a way no other artist can. The world feels real and lived-in and you feel the weight of this war on all the characters. I wouldn't trust anyone else to handle this story with the grace he brings.



**DON'T MISS
DC vs. VAMPIRES:
WORLD WAR V #1,
ON SALE THIS AUGUST!**

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The Last Kryptonian-DCP

